

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-9, 11-38 are pending in the present application.

Allowable claim 10 has been merged into claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is in condition for allowance. The term "the step of" has been removed from the claims for grammatical consistency.

New independent claim 21 includes the elements of allowable claim 15 and claim 1.

New independent claim ³⁵~~27~~ is a system claim related to allowable claim 1.

New independent claim ³⁸~~30~~ is a system claim related to allowable claim 21.

Because each independent claim is allowable, so are each of the dependent claims. In addition, each of the dependent claims provides additional non-obvious subject matter.

In conclusion, Applicant has overcome all of the Office's rejections, and early notice of allowance to this effect is earnestly solicited. If, for any reason, the Office is unable to allow the Application on the next Office Action, and believes a telephone interview would be helpful, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

6-12-03
Date

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents on <u>6-12-03</u> .	
Katrina Prati	<u>Katrina Prati</u>
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